

We claim:

1. A method for selective encryption within a document comprising the steps of:
  - detecting a portion of a document selected and marked for encryption; and
  - encrypting the detected portion of the document selected for encryption.
- 5 2. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising after said encrypting step, the step of displaying the document with the selected portions of the document encrypted.
3. The method as described in claim 2 wherein the encrypted portions are displayed  
10 in a random unintelligible format until a proper decryption key is entered.
4. The method as described in claim 2 further comprising after said displaying step, the step of repeating said detecting and encrypting steps for another selective portion of the document.
- 15 5. The method as describe in claim 4 wherein an encrypted portion of the document has a different encryption key from another encrypted portion of the document.
6. The method as described in claim 2 further comprising after said displaying step,  
20 the step of storing the document with the selected portions encrypted.
7. The method as described in claim 6 further comprising after said storing step, the steps of:
  - detecting an attempt to access an encrypted portion of the document; and
  - 25 determining whether the accessor is authorized to access the encrypted portion of the document.
8. The method as described in claim 7 further comprising the step of displaying the document with the selected portions encrypted, when the determination is that the  
30 accessor does not have authority to access that portion of the document.

9. The method as described in claim 7 further comprising the step of displaying the document with any previously encrypted portions decrypted when the determination is that the accessor has the authority to access the encrypted portion of the document.

5 10. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising after said encrypting step, the steps of:

- extracting the encrypted portion of the document;
  - storing the extracted portion of the document in an appendix location; and
  - identifying the location in the document of the extracted portion of the
- 10 document.

11. The method as described in claim 10 further comprising after said identifying step, the step of storing the document with the encrypted portions in a designated location.

15 12. The method as described in claim 10 further comprising after said identifying step, the steps of:

- detecting a requesting to access an encrypted portion of the document;
- determining whether accessor is authorized to access that encrypted portion of the document;
- 20 - decrypting, retrieving and inserting the extracted contents of that encrypted portion of the document when the determination is that accessor has proper authorization to access that portion of the document; and
- displaying the document with that previously encrypted portion of the document in decrypted form.

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13. The method as described in claim 10 further comprising after said identifying step, the steps of:

- detecting a requesting to access an encrypted portion of the document;
- determining whether accessor is authorized to access that encrypted portion of the document; and
- rejecting the access request when the determination is that the accessor does not have authority to access that portion of the document.

14. The method as described in claim 10 further comprising after said identifying step, the step of filling the location of the extracted portion of the document with random symbols.

15. The method as described in claim 14 further comprising after said filling step, the step of transmitting the document across a computing network to an identified destination.

16. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising after said displaying step, the steps of:

- detecting an attempt to access an encrypted portion of a document;
- determining whether the proper decryption keys for decryption are presented by the accessor;
- decrypting that encrypted portion of the document when the proper decryption keys are presented by the accessor; and
- displaying that portion of the document as decrypted.

17. The method as described in claim 2 further comprising after said displaying step, the steps of:

- detecting an attempt to access an encrypted portion of a document;
- determining whether the proper decryption keys for decryption are presented  
5 by the accessor; and
- rejecting the access attempt when the accessor does not present the proper decryption keys.

18. The method as described in claim 2 further comprising after said displaying step,  
10 the step of transmitting the document across a computing network to an identified destination.

19. The method as described in claim 1 wherein said detecting step further comprises identifying a selected portion of a document that is marked by swiping a peripheral a  
15 apparatus that interfaces with a computing device over the portion of the document for which encryption is desired.

20. A computer program product in a computer readable medium for selective encryption within a document comprising:  
20 instructions for detecting a portion of a document selected and marked for encryption; and  
instructions for encrypting the detected portion of the document selected for encryption.

25 21. The computer program product as described in claim 20 further comprising after said encrypting instructions, instructions for displaying the document with the selected portions of the document encrypted.

22. The computer program product as described in claim 21 further comprising after said displaying instructions, instructions for repeating said detecting, identifying and encrypting instructions for another selective portion of the document.

5 23. The computer program product as described in claim 21 further comprising after said displaying instructions, instructions for storing the document with the selected portions encrypted.

24. The computer program product as described in claim 21 further comprising after  
10 said storing instructions, instructions for:  
detecting an attempt to access an encrypted portion of the document; and  
determining whether the accessor is authorized to access the encrypted portion of the document.

15 25. The computer program product as described in claim 24 further comprising instructions for displaying the document with the selected portions encrypted, when the determination is that the accessor does not have authority to access that portion of the document.

20 26. The computer program product as described in claim 24 further comprising instructions for displaying the document with any previously encrypted portions decrypted when the determination is that the accessor has the authority to access the encrypted portion of the document.

25 27 The computer program product as described in claim 20 further comprising after said encrypting instructions, instructions for:

- extracting the encrypted portion of the document;
- storing the extracted portion of the document in an appendix location; and
- identifying the location in the document of the extracted portion of the  
30 document.

28. The computer program product as described in claim 27 further comprising after said identifying instructions, instructions for storing the document with the encrypted portions in a designated location.

5 29. The computer program product as described in claim 27 further comprising after said identifying instructions, instructions for:

- detecting a requesting to access an encrypted portion of the document;
- determining whether accessor is authorized to access that encrypted portion of the document;
- 10 - decrypting, retrieving and inserting the extracted contents of that encrypted portion of the document when the determination is that accessor has proper authorization to access that portion of the document; and
- displaying the document with that previously encrypted portion of the document in decrypted form.

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30. The computer program product as described in claim 27 further comprising after said identifying instructions, instructions for:

- detecting a requesting to access an encrypted portion of the document;
- determining whether accessor is authorized to access that encrypted portion of the document; and
- 20 - rejecting the access request when the determination is that the accessor does not have authority to access that portion of the document.

31. The computer program product as described in claim 27 further comprising after said identifying instructions, instructions for filling the location of the extracted portion of the document with random symbols.

32. The computer program product as described in claim 31 further comprising after said filling instructions, instructions for transmitting the document across a computing network to an identified destination.

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33. The computer program product as described in claim 21 further comprising after said displaying instructions, instructions for:

- detecting an attempt to access an encrypted portion of a document;
- determining whether the proper decryption keys for decryption are presented  
5 by the accessor;
- decrypting that encrypted portion of the document when the proper decryption keys are presented by the accessor; and
- displaying that portion of the document as decrypted.

10 34. The computer program product as described in claim 21 further comprising after said displaying instructions, instructions for:

- detecting an attempt to access an encrypted portion of a document;
- determining whether the proper decryption keys for decryption are presented  
by the accessor; and
- 15 - rejecting the access attempt when the accessor does not present the proper decryption keys.

35. The computer program product as described in claim 21 further comprising after said displaying instructions, instructions for transmitting the document across a  
20 computing network to an identified destination.